(ii) Development of 1 tonne class, pressure fed cryogenic engine;

(iii) Exposure on development of cryogenic stage for Geo-Synchronous Launch Vehice (GSLV);

(iv) Expertise created in ISRO, industry and academic institutions for earth storable liquid propulsion systems which can be suitably upgraded;

(v) Establishment of an operational liquid hydrogen plant,

Failure of PSLV

97. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's most powerful rocket, PSLV, failed to complete its mission recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have ordered a probe into the causes of the failure; and

(d) if so, by when the successful rocket would be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While almost all the systems of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) have worked satisfactorily till the end of second stage, the disturbances caused during the separation of the second stage from the third stage coupled with a software error under large pitch error conditions in the onboard computer resulted in the loss of control and changed trajectory. Notwithstanding, the third stage has functioned normally. The fourth stage also ignited as planned and developed full thrust as expected till splash down.

(c) The first few development flights are meant to prove the vehicle and the experience of failure in the first developmental flight is not unexpected. In spite of the failure to reach the final orbit, the success achieved in proving all the major systems and subsystems of the complex vehicle is noteworthy. A national level Failure Analysis Committee (FAC) has been constituted which is expected to give its final recommendations by 15th December.

(d) The second developmental flight of PSLV is planned during June, 1994.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 3RD DECEMBER, 1993*

Loss due to Earthquake in Latur Maharashtra

*21. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated loss of life and property following the unprecedented earthquake in Latur Maharashtra; and

(b) what measures have been taken by Government to provide relief to the victims and also to give adequate financial and other assistance to the State Government of Maharashtra for relief operations?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b) Government of Maharashtra have reported the following loss of life and damage to property due to the earthquake in some parts of the State on September 30, 1993:—

(a) No. of humanlives lost	—7601
(b) Estimated loss of property (Rs. in crores)	—300.00

*The sitting of Rajya Sabha on Friday, the 3rd December 1993 was adjourned as a mark of respect in the Memory of Shri Frank Anthony. Answers to Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the table of the House on Monday the 6th December 1993.

The relief operations undertaken in the affected areas include :

(a) Rescue operations, involving clearing of the debris and removing of dead bodies and their disposal.

(b) Medical aid in terms of personnel and supplies.

(c) Provision of foodgrain, cooked food, safe drinking water and fresh milk.

(d) Operation of 1546 temporary shelter in Latur and 6705 tenements in Osmanabad district for survivors who had lost their homes.

(e) Provision of fuel and electricity.

(f) Prophylactic public health measures for prevention of the outbreak of any epidemic.

Under the existing scheme of financing relief expenditure, Government of India, in addition to the normal release of three quarterly instalments of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) amounting to Rs. 25.50 crores for the current year, has also released Rs. 41.50 crores as advance from the CRF to enable the State Government to undertake immediate relief measures.

18 villages in Latur and 12 villages in Osmanabad district have been allotted to various doner agencies for the purpose of reconstruction of houses and other amenities.

Apart from taking steps to utilise assistance assured by foreign Doners, a World Bank loan assistance is also being negotiated to finance the rehabilitation programmes in the affected areas involving housing and infrastructure, economic and social rehabilitation and other related programmes.

Increase in Rice yield through Rice-fish Culture

*22. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the findings of a multi-country project funded by the Canadian Government's International Development Research Centre (IDRCS), according to which rise-fish culture can increase the yield of rice by 25 to 30 per cent ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ;

(c) whether Government propose to advise farmers to adopt this method ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) to (d) As the project does not cover India we are not aware of the details of the project. In regard to the question of advising the farmers on the technology developed under the said project, it is stated that in several eastern States of India the farmers already practice Paddy-cum-fish culture.

Installation of Fire Fighting System in High Rise Building

*23. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 622 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th April, 1993 and state :

(a) the number of high-rise buildings which have since introduced fire fighting system till now ; and

(b) what steps are being taken to ensure that the rest of the buildings also bring them at desired safety level ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL) : (a) Out of the 123 unsafe high-rise buildings in April 1993, Delhi Fire Service have reported that 13 buildings have since provided the fire fighting systems.

(b) After expiry of the last date upto which extension was given by the Delhi Fire Service for providing the mandatory 12 fire safety requirements action was initiated by the Delhi Fire Service under the provisions of the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986, to seal the